

CLEVELAND  
ANIMAL  
PROTECTIVE  
LEAGUE



# Patter

June 2026

## Archie—the “Bestest Boy”

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Archie is a healthy, happy kitty living a very good life. In fact, his mom, Maddy, says he’s the “bestest boy ever.” To look at him now, cozy and comfortable, you’d never know how close he came to missing out on this great life, and on being Maddy’s first and best cat!

Maddy moved out on her own a little over a year ago. The move was the start of new adventures, but sometimes it was a bit too quiet. Maddy found herself thinking about her sister’s “little loaf of a cat.” Maddy decided she needed a cat as well.

Maddy and her boyfriend visited five different shelters looking for just the right kitty companion. They even came to the APL but didn’t see Archie. When they visited the APL a second time, they went to the “catios” to check out those cats, and there he was. Archie. He was, Maddy recalls, an “extremely underweight cat.”

Archie was once an “owned” cat. Abandoned by his owner, the APL Humane Investigations team found him emaciated and dehydrated and rushed him to the APL for much-needed nutrition and medical care.

In the APL’s care, Archie got the healthy food and nutritional supplements he needed to start him on his way back to health. Still, he was very shy. A curtain was put up in his cage to give him privacy; he startled easily and didn’t seem to like attention. After a few weeks, he was still timid but was strong enough to find his new home.

By the time Maddy and her partner made their second visit to the APL, Archie seemed ready to take matters into his own paws. Archie—who not long before was too shy to look at people who came to see him—summoned up his courage and ran to Maddy, requesting pets. An extremely good judge of character, Archie chose Maddy that day. And Maddy could tell,



Archie is a handsome, happy kitty living the best life!

right from the start, that Archie was a “loveable guy with the sweetest heart.”

Archie’s mom and dad were concerned about him being lonely for the company of other cats, so they adopted Millie. It has been a great match; the two cats love wrestling about the apartment. Archie went home with Maddy and her boyfriend with instructions from the APL to “fatten him up,” and they have. Archie unapologetically sneaks food from Maddy’s plate, just

# Bennie's BLURB

## Letter from the President & CEO

As I've previously shared, I'll be retiring at the end of the year. As that time approaches, I find myself reflecting on the incredible progress the Cleveland APL has helped to lead in our field over the years.

One of the most significant changes has been the advancement of veterinary care provided to shelter animals. From advanced diagnostics and complex treatments to intensive care and specialty surgeries, our talented veterinary team now provides care that rivals what many pets receive at private clinics. Not long ago, many of these animals would not have had a second chance at the APL or anywhere else. Today, we are treating conditions I never imagined possible during my career.

Conditions that animal shelters historically couldn't treat due to cost or the risk of infecting other animals in our busy facilities are now routinely managed at the APL. While they remain costly and require careful oversight, treating them has become part of our culture rather than the exception.

One example is parvovirus in puppies and dogs, which was once almost always fatal in shelters, is now treated with intensive care, modern protocols and medication, isolation, close monitoring, and a team willing to fight for an animal whose outcome isn't guaranteed. Another is orthopedic injuries that once meant amputation or euthanasia when specialty surgery was the only option that are now repaired and rehabilitated. In both cases, recovery often takes place in the homes of dedicated foster volunteers.

These advances represent more than better medicine. They reflect a deep and evolving commitment to doing the best and the most we can for the animals entrusted to our care.

For me, this progress has also been deeply personal.

Nearly eight years ago, Bennie arrived at the APL infected with parvovirus. Several of his littermates had already died. For a fragile 1.7-pound puppy like Bennie, the odds were uncertain.

At the time, the APL was just beginning to explore ways to safely treat parvo in our shelter, and Bennie was one of our first patients. Under the close monitoring of our veterinary team, Bennie grew stronger over the next few days until he was cleared to go to the home of a dedicated foster family to complete his recovery and get back to being a curious, mischievous puppy.

Oliver's story reflects another side of modern shelter medicine. After suffering an injury at home, he was transferred to us from another shelter that couldn't provide the care he needed. Oliver had a shattered leg bone and required specialty orthopedic surgery to save it, which was something the APL could not have offered just a few years ago.

Thanks to the Second Chance Program, Oliver received the surgery and rehabilitation he needed. Today he runs like a scruffy gazelle and has no idea it's thanks to the screw and four pins that pieced him back together.

Adopting Bennie and Oliver has been one of the great privileges of my life. Every day they remind me that behind every medical case is a life waiting for its chance to be lived fully.

Their stories are not unusual anymore. They are part of a broader transformation happening at the Cleveland APL. As veterinary medicine advances, and the APL invests in the capacity to provide that level of care; animals who once had no options are now given time, treatment, and hope.

This progress is only possible because of a remarkable community: veterinarians, technicians, our shelter team, foster volunteers, and supporters like you who believe shelter animals deserve the same commitment to healing that we give our own pets.

As I prepare to step away at the end of the year, one of the things that gives me the greatest confidence about the future of the Cleveland APL is knowing that this commitment to innovation, compassion, and doing more for animals will continue to guide the organization forward. Bennie and Oliver are home because of it, and thanks to you, many more animals will have the same chance in the future.

Thank you for making that possible.



Sharon Harvey  
and Bennie



## Helping Community Cats

### Cleveland APL Will Celebrate its 75,000th Trap-Neuter-Return Surgery This Year!

Ever feel like you've been "adopted" by an outdoor cat at home or work? Many people kindly feed and shelter these cats, but unless they're also spayed or neutered (fixed), these cats will continue to have kittens. Unaltered cats can have up to three litters a year, quickly leading to more cats!

The Cleveland Animal Protective League's Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program, which started in 2008, has been tackling that problem while also improving cats' health. In 2025 alone, 3,936 cats were trapped by compassionate community members and TNR advocates, brought to the APL, and fixed, showing the power of this community-based approach.

TNR is the most humane and effective way to manage feral and free-roaming cats. Simply removing cats from the area often creates a "vacuum effect," where new cats move in. In contrast, fixing cats through TNR prevents breeding and stabilizes colonies. Fixed cats stay put and populations become smaller and healthier over time, and behaviors like fighting, spraying, and yowling also are reduced.

This milestone belongs to the dedicated trappers and caregivers who make this work possible every day. Because

of your commitment, the Cleveland APL's TNR program will surpass 75,000 cats fixed since it began in 2008. While the number is impressive, the true measure of impact of this extraordinary achievement is thousands of healthier cats, fewer litters, and fewer free roaming cats living in neighborhoods and other areas where TNR strategy is being used. Thank you for being the driving force behind this lifesaving impact.

#### Program details

Cats in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County who go through TNR are:

- Vaccinated
- Spayed or neutered
- Ear-tipped (While under anesthesia, about ¼ inch is removed from the tip of the left ear to show it has already been fixed.)
- Returned to where they were found

Cats must be brought to the APL in a humane trap or transfer cage. Traps can be rented from the Community Pet Clinic:

- \$60 deposit (\$50 refunded when returned in good condition)

The TNR program runs Monday–Friday, with drop-off from 7:45–8:45 a.m.

Appointments are required: call 216-255-5022 or email [communitypetclinic@clevelandapl.org](mailto:communitypetclinic@clevelandapl.org).

The cost to the trapper/caregiver is \$20 per cat.

*We would like to thank the following funders and donors for supporting TNR by subsidizing part of the APL's cost and keeping the copay to program participants very low: Cleveland Animal Care & Control (Cleveland cats only), Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, a Keybank Trust, the Bernice Barbour Foundation, the Ohio Pet Fund, the Ware Foundation, and the Molly Zangerle Suburban Spay-It-Forward Program.*



Cats who go through TNR are all vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and ear-tipped before being returned.

## Visit the APL

Please visit our website at [ClevelandAPL.org](http://ClevelandAPL.org) for the most up-to-date open information. Hours may be subject to change.

#### Animal Resource Center Hours:

Monday - Saturday	10am - 5:30pm
Sunday	Closed

#### Adoption and Education Center Hours:

Monday-Friday	11am - 6pm
Saturday	10am - 5pm
Sunday	12pm - 4pm

#### affoGATO Cat Café:

Please visit [www.affogatocatcafe.com](http://www.affogatocatcafe.com) to learn more and make a reservation.



# Morpheus—The God of Dreams Gets His Own Dream Come True

What good was it being named after the Greek God of Dreams if you can't make your own dream come true?

Morpheus and his brother, Maverick, were living in crates for ten hours a day so their owners surrendered the Rottweiler mixes to the APL because they wanted better lives for them.

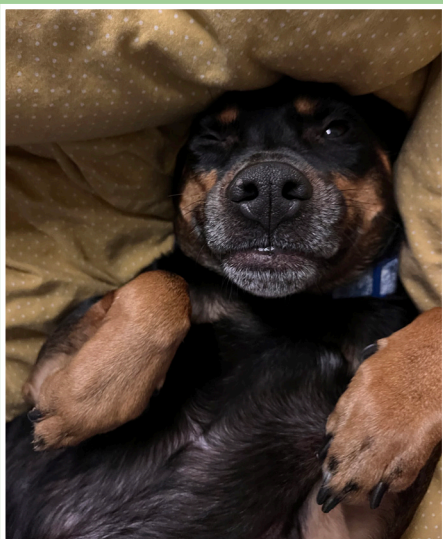
Maverick quickly found his new home. Morpheus, named for the Greek god of dreams, grew increasingly unsettled in the shelter. Maybe he was thinking about his own dream life—where someone would love him for the sweet, sometimes silly boy he was, and who he could love and protect in return.

Sydney had grown up with dogs and made it two or three years into her adult life without one. When she began law school, she knew it was time. Law school was stressful, and coming home to a furry friend would help so much.

Sydney saw Morpheus on the APL website and knew right away that she wanted to meet him. Morpheus had met with other potential families—some of them multiple times—but didn't seem to "click" with them.

Sydney and her husband Aditya were shown to an APL meet and greet room. Morpheus was brought in. He took one look at the two of them and promptly sat on Aditya's feet. "Okay," said Aditya, "I guess this is our dog." And so, he was!

The first order of business was a new name, something not so ponderous. Morpheus became Murphy, a name more suited to his personality and new life.



Murphy's adjustment was not instantaneous. Murphy did not like being crated. Eventually, they tried leaving him loose in the house when they were out. He was, in a word, perfect. He didn't have accidents or chew up anything.

**Murphy loves the simple things in life—relaxing, cuddling, and his favorite toys.**

Today, Murphy has the run of the house, even when home alone.

Overall, Murphy behaved like the perfect guest. He didn't get on the furniture or the bed. He didn't play with his toys. Sydney even hand-fed him because he seemed frightened by the crunch of his kibble.



**Murphy was just as excited to celebrate Sydney's graduation!**

That was three years ago. Sydney has spent a great deal of time building Murphy's confidence and reassuring him that he's not a guest—he's family! Sydney and Aditya seemed to have convinced Murphy that he doesn't need to be quite so ... perfect. Sydney recalls that they nearly celebrated when he was finally "naughty" and "stole" a wrapper from the garbage.

They have discovered that Murphy loves babies. Murphy soothed Sydney's six-month-old nephew, resting his head on the baby's feet. Sydney laughs affectionately when she says that Murphy "is the best mama."

Now that he knows it's allowed, Murphy likes relaxing on the bed. When he's stressed, he cuddles up there to watch his favorite movie, Winnie the Pooh. He likes playing with his toys, especially his beloved stuffed alien toys.

Sydney has been patient and devoted to Murphy. In return, he is loyal to and protective of her. Murphy provided Sydney with emotional support as she navigated law school. Now that she has graduated and works at a stressful, non-profit law firm, Murphy remains her steady companion, by her side, especially on the tough days.

Sydney speaks of Murphy with love. "You've never met a dog so sweet."

Congratulations, Murphy, on finding your dream family. And thank you, Sydney and Aditya, for making one very special dog's dream come true.

## Thank You to the Cleveland Monsters...

...for welcoming dogs and their owners to the 16th Annual Pucks & Paws event at Rocket Arena. The APL was the beneficiary of the dog tickets as well as a portion of the human tickets sold for the Cleveland Monsters hockey game on Saturday, March 7. There were more than 550 dogs in attendance for this year's Pucks & Paws event! The Monsters also helped the APL raise additional funds by donating a portion of the proceeds from a 50/50 raffle. In all, the APL received more than \$9,000 from the event!

Photo credit: Arlee Reust



## Thank you WKYC Channel 3 for hosting the 15th Annual Fur-Get-Me-Not Telethon

The 15th annual Fur-Get-Me-Not Telethon aired on Thursday, March 19, on WKYC Channel 3. This wonderful event was hosted by Joe Cronauer. Between 5 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., viewers saw vignettes that showcased the diverse and meaningful work the APL does to rescue, heal, nurture, adopt, and advocate for animals in need.

The event brought the community together and inspired viewers to donate to help the thousands of animals who will be assisted by the Cleveland APL this year.

Our Fur-Get-Me-Not Telethon yet again invited both the team from WKYC and our phone bank volunteers into the same room at the APL. And thanks to the overwhelming support of the community, we continue to raise even more money to help the animals! This year, more than \$156,000 was raised to support the lifesaving work we do here at the Cleveland APL when we went off the air. Your support continued to roll in, and more than \$165,000 was raised for this year's event.



We are so grateful to our friends at Channel 3, celebrity host Joe Cronauer, and all the sponsors who made this event possible during such a critical time. A special thank

WKYC's Joe Cronauer with Ayse Dunlap, Vice President of Operations, at the Cleveland APL.



More than \$156,000 was raised when we went off air!

you to Presenting Sponsors Cavitch Familo & Durkin, CrossCountry Mortgage, Ken Ganley Subaru Wickliffe and Subaru Bedford, and Northeast Factory Direct.

*Additionally, thank you to the following companies and organizations for their generosity and efforts in raising funds through events to help the Cleveland APL and our animals.*

**Rozi's Wine House and Voyager Beverage** for donating ticket and raffle sales through their Sober-ish event.

**Staffing Solutions** for donating proceeds through their Give Back program.

We also appreciate the additional in-kind donations we have received from our friends and supporters.

To learn about how your business or organization can host your own Community Fundraiser, please call Hannah MacIntyre, Events & Social Media Manager, at (216) 377-1628. You can also visit our website, [www.ClevelandAPL.org](http://www.ClevelandAPL.org) to view our Community Fundraiser Policies and Application.

## Upcoming Events

# Save The Date For Our Annual Fur Ball Gala Paws Ahoy

Mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, November 7, for Fur Ball 2026—Paws Ahoy, benefiting the Cleveland APL's Second Chance Program. At Fur Ball, you can bid on fabulous live and silent auction items, "paws" at delicious food stations and enjoy the open bar, and hear stories about our VIPs (Very Important Pets)—all while raising funds to support the thousands of sick, injured, and special-needs animals that come to the APL every year in need of help. Through our Second Chance Program, we provide veterinary care for wonderful animals that are looking for a chance, not only to survive, but to heal and be given a chance to start a new, healthy life with a family full of love.

There are many opportunities to participate in this year's Fur Ball: purchase in-person or virtual tickets when tickets go on sale this September, become a corporate sponsor, or donate to our live or silent auctions.

To learn more about the event and the ways you can get involved, please call Hannah MacIntyre, Events & Social Media Manager, at 216-377-1628, or visit [ClevelandAPL.org/Fur-Ball](http://ClevelandAPL.org/Fur-Ball).



## Thank You for Your Support!

Please note: Tributes and Memorials at \$100 and above are now listed on our website. Please visit [www.clevelandapl.org/about-us/pet-patter/](http://www.clevelandapl.org/about-us/pet-patter/) to see the listings.



The Cleveland APL's animals are fed Hill's® Science Diet® pet food.

# Save the Date for Dick Goddard's APL Telethon on Wednesday, September 16, 2026



Fox 8's Natalie Herbick with Ayse Dunlap, Vice President of Operations, at the Cleveland APL.  
Photo credit: Dan Sandy

Save the date for the 12th Annual Dick Goddard APL Telethon, which will air on Fox 8 from 6 am to 7:30 pm, on Wednesday, September 16, 2026. Funds raised during the event will help the thousands of animals the Cleveland APL cares for every year. Help keep Dick Goddard's memory alive and help the various furry, scaly, feathered, and everything-in-between pets we work tirelessly to save by tuning in. Throughout the day, you will hear stories about the many wonderful animals who are at the APL waiting for loving homes and learn what your donation can do to support the Cleveland APL's life-saving programs and services.

For more information about the telethon and the ways you can help, please visit [clevelandapl.org/events/dick-goddards-apl-telethon](http://clevelandapl.org/events/dick-goddards-apl-telethon).



## Don't Miss the Chance to Feature Your Furry Friend(s) in the 2027 APL Pet Calendar Contest!

Don't miss the chance to feature your pet(s) in the 2027 Cleveland APL calendar! To enter the contest, visit our website at [www.clevelandapl.org/2027-calendar-contest](http://www.clevelandapl.org/2027-calendar-contest) or call 216-377-1628 for more information. Remember to enter before Friday, July 25, 2026, for the chance to make your furry friend a star! Every photo entered will get a place in our 2027 calendar.

Also, look for the calendar contest voting again this year on our website in August!



## Opportunities to Give

Many generous individuals choose to donate to the Cleveland APL in lieu of giving gifts for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, Bat Mitzvahs, Bar Mitzvahs, etc. Their thoughtfulness is a wonderful tribute to their love for animals. Call 216-344-1353 if you would like to learn more about how your celebration can help the APL's homeless animals.

In addition, many individuals choose to give through a workplace giving program. Federal employees also can give to the APL through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The Cleveland APL's Combined Federal Campaign number is 29857. The Cleveland APL's Tax ID number is 34-0714644.

## Other Ways to Give

The Cleveland Animal Protective League's programs and services are made possible through donations from caring people like you. Here are just a few of the ways you can give to the Cleveland APL, allowing us to continue our life-saving work, while receiving tax benefits as well.

- You can make a stock gift to the Cleveland APL. Here is the information you will need to gift stock:  
Raymond James  
DTC Participant #725  
For further credit to: Animal Protective League a/c #8855Y413
- Your investment in a donor-advised fund provides an immediate tax benefit for you, and that means your donations go even further to help the causes closest to your heart.
- If you have an IRA and are over 70½ years old, you can reduce your taxable income by directly transferring your required minimum distribution to a qualified charity such as the Cleveland APL.

For more information about any of these giving options, please call Judy Hunter, Vice President of Philanthropy and Communications, at 216-344-1353.



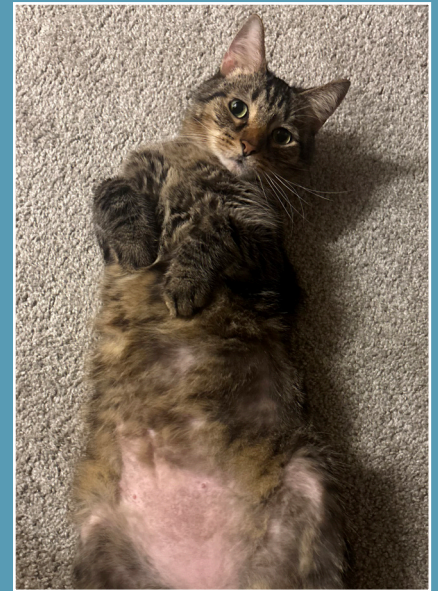
# Happy Tale Cont.

BELOW: Archie and Millie are a purr-fect pair!  
RIGHT: Archie shows off his plump tummy, ready for pets.

## Continued...

to help fulfill that mission. In fact, Maddy says one of Archie's favorite things to do is eat! The only thing he loves more is snuggling and sleeping with Maddy, reveling in the very good choice he made.

We're so happy, Archie, that you got the great life you deserve. And thank you, Maddy, for giving Archie his best life. Perfect, really, for the "bestest boy ever!"



## Make A Difference, Become a Cage Sponsor

At the Cleveland Animal Protective League, healthy, friendly animals stay with us as long as it takes to find a loving home, receiving the care they need and deserve. With your one-year, renewable cage sponsorship, you help provide a safe, temporary haven for these animals. Each sponsorship is recognized with a plaque, which can honor a loved one or promote your business.

### Dog Cage Sponsorship



Duke Ellington was with us  
7 months and 22 days.  
Adopted!

**One Year: \$1,800**  
Monthly (12x a year): \$150

### Cat Cage Sponsorship



Hugo was with us  
2 months and 18 days.  
Adopted!

**One Year: \$1,500**  
Monthly (12x a year): \$125

### Small Mammal Cage Sponsorship



Meyers was with us  
1 month and 19 days.  
Adopted!

**One Year: \$1,300**  
Monthly (12x a year): \$108.33



## Interested in becoming a cage sponsor or renewing your current one?

Visit [clevelandapl.org/sponsor-a-cage](http://clevelandapl.org/sponsor-a-cage) or contact  
Michelle Papachristou, Annual Fund and Database Manager,  
at 216-255-5024 or [mpapachristou@clevelandapl.org](mailto:mpapachristou@clevelandapl.org) for more information.